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Advancement of women

Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America: draft resolution

United Nations Development Fund for Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984, in which it decided to make the United Nations Development Fund for Women a separate and identifiable entity in autonomous association with the United Nations Development Programme, as well as its resolution 52/94 of 12 December 1997,

Recalling also the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women,[1] which recognizes the special role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in the promotion of the empowerment of women,

Taking note of the importance of the work of the Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women in policy and programme directions, as stipulated in the annex to resolution 39/125,

Welcoming the contributions the Fund has made in supporting initiatives of Member States, non-governmental organizations and United Nations organizations to formulate and implement activities that promote gender equality and women's empowerment, concentrating on three thematic areas: strengthening women's economic capacity; engendering governance and leadership; and promoting women's human rights and the elimination of all forms of violence against women,

[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

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1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the note by the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;[2]

2. *Emphasizes* the important work that the Fund undertakes within the framework of the Beijing Platform for Action[1] and in supporting the implementation of recommendations related to women's empowerment and gender mainstreaming from other United Nations world conferences, such as the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and Development and the World Summit for Social Development;

3. *Takes note* of the progress achieved in the implementation of the Fund's strategy and business plan, 1997-1999, adopted in 1997;

4. *Encourages* the Fund to cooperate with other partners of the United Nations system, governments and non-governmental organizations in assessment activities at all levels that will feed into the five-year review of the Beijing Platform for Action, including efforts to improve capacity in collection and dissemination of sex disaggregated data and accountability mechanisms at the country level;

5. *Commends* the Fund for its leadership role in convening United Nations inter-agency campaigns to end violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and in Asia and the Pacific throughout 1998 and continuing in 1999 and beyond, and the United Nations inter-agency global videoconference "A World Free of Violence Against Women", which took place on 8 March 1999;

6. *Recognizes* the progress achieved by the Fund in increasing the size and impact of its Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women and the importance of incorporating a learning component to extract and share good practices in eliminating violence against women, and reiterates the call to Governments, non-governmental organizations and the public and private sector to consider contributing or increasing contributions to the Trust Fund;[3]

7. *Encourages* the Fund to continue to assist Governments and non-governmental organizations in implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[4] in order to advance gender equality at the national level;[5]

8. *Requests* the Fund to strengthen the activities that it is undertaking to raise awareness about and strengthen the capacities of women in situations of armed conflict and to contribute to promoting the integration of a gender perspective into all peace-building activities, including through supporting women's full and equal participation at all levels, in all forums;

9. *Also requests* the Fund to continue its efforts to mainstream a gender perspective in United Nations operational activities, in particular through its leadership of the Sub-group on Gender of the United Nations Development Group and its convening of United Nations inter-agency thematic groups on gender to support the resident coordinator system;

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[2] A/54/225.

[3] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 7*, (E/1998/27), draft resolution IV, I, B.

[4] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[5] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II, para. 231 (g).

10. *Commends* the Fund and its collaborating partners for developing innovative mechanisms to expand the gender expertise available to the United Nations resident coordinator system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Volunteers, and encourages other United Nations organizations to develop similar initiatives that make use of the Fund's expertise and experience in gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment;

11. *Takes note* of the recommendations of the Fund's Consultative Committee, as contained in the note by the Secretary-General, to further clarify the autonomous nature of the Fund and deepen the synergy between the Fund and the United Nations Development Programme;

12. *Recognizes* that the Fund has been able to secure increased contributions for its work, and expresses its appreciation to Member States and private organizations, including the United Nations Foundation, whose increased contributions demonstrate their commitment to the issues on which the Fund is working;

13. *Urges* Member States, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to contribute to and consider increasing their financial contributions to the Fund.